suit of delay in the processing of power projects for which funds have been tied up; and

(d) What is the present position with regard to these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) No proposal is pending in the Central Electricity Authority for setting up of hydro and thermal power projects for which funds have been tied up,

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of reply to (a) and (b) above.

Effect of counter guarantees of growth rate

1183.. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that if all fast-track] power projects are cleared with counter guarantees similar to the one given to Enron's Dabhol project it may cost the Union Government an amount of $ 10 Billion a year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that even with an optimistic growth rate of 7 per cent per year, this will amount to more than three per cent of the country's gross domestic product:

(c) whether it would disrupt our growth process for years to come and

(d) if so, in what manner Government propose to avert such a predict-tnent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CMMANBHAI PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Linkage of NTPC power projects with Satellite communication system

1184. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some gas-based power projects of National Thermal Power Corporation have been linked with satellite communication system;

(b) if so, the names of such projects indicating the location, State and Territory-wise;

(c) whether such linking with satellite ' communication system will provide some benefit to the people;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

t.e) whether Government propose to link some more such projects in future; and

(f) if so, the names of such projects, State and Territory-wise r.:-..l if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) The following gas power projects of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) have been linked with Headquarters at New Delhi through Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSAT);

1. Auraiya District Etawah, Uttar Pradesh.

2. Anta, District Baran, Rajasthan.

3. Kawas, P.O. Aditya Nagar, Gujarat.

4. Jhanor-Gandhar, District Bharuch, Gujarat;

(c) and (d) Links have been es tablished for communication between NTPC projects and its headquarters for more efficient working of the power projects. Facility has been established principally for NTPC'e dedicated use for its business re quirements. The network is an NTPC dedicated network and there is no connection with Department of Telecommunication's Public Switched Telephone Network.